

EXHIBIT 1
DATE 3-26-13
HB HR 4

March 25, 2013

To: House Agriculture Committee

From: Carole J. Thoen
Raymond E. Thoen
251 E. Badger Lane
Butte, MT 59701

Dear Members of the House Agriculture Committee,

We and our fellow members of the Mile High Back Country Horsemen in Butte are in favor of Jon Tester's Forest Jobs and Recreation Act. This is good for Montana and good for the people of Montana. We need to have logging jobs in Montana. As it stands now we have so many dead trees that the trails are becoming unsafe for any mode of travel including horses, hiking, mountain biking and even for motorized vehicles. This is not only for more timber jobs but for the safety of those who venture into the woods. The fire danger is so high that if one gets started in our beetle damaged forests it will be unstoppable.

As I am sure you are aware, the money derived from the timber sales in this bill STAY in Montana and does not go into the general fund in Washington D.C. This is just one more reason for the passing of the Forest Jobs and Recreation Act.

I appreciate your cooperation concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Carole & Ray Thoen
Mile High Back Country Horsemen